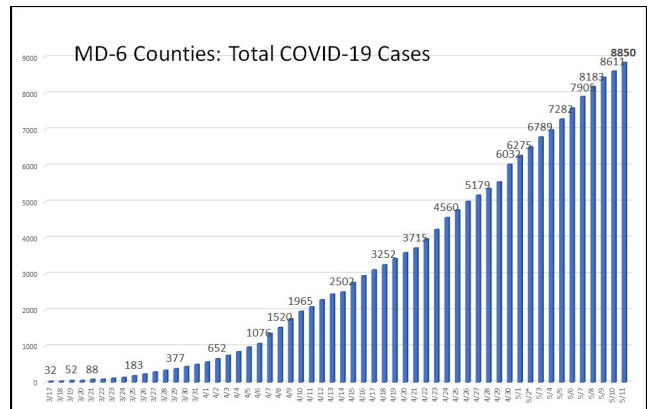
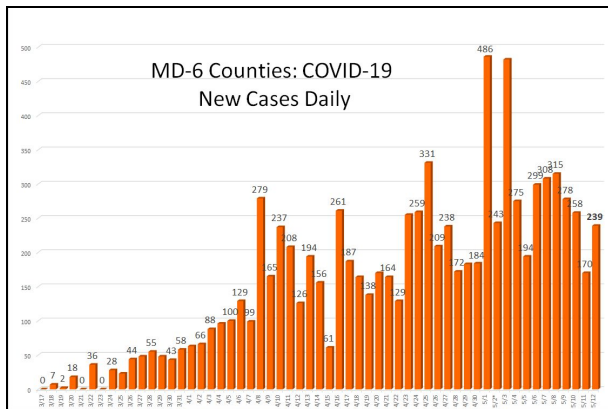
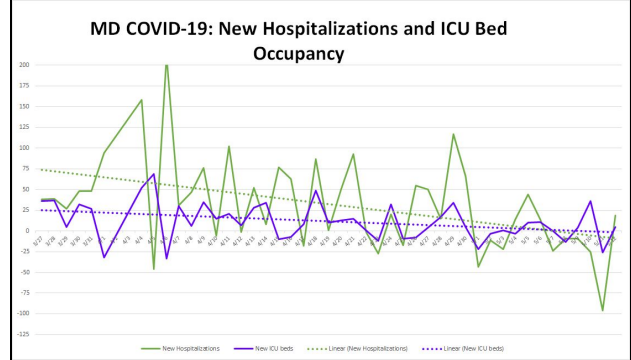
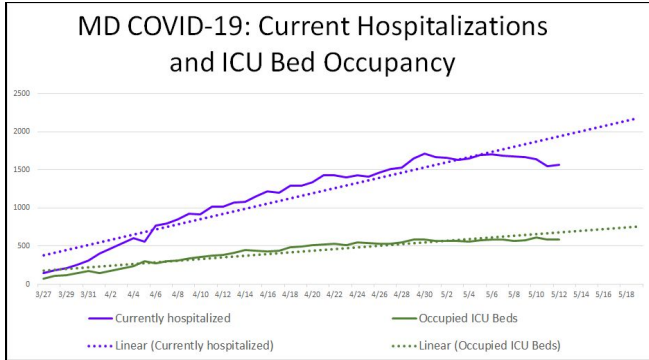


Daily Coronavirus Update: May 12, 5 PM

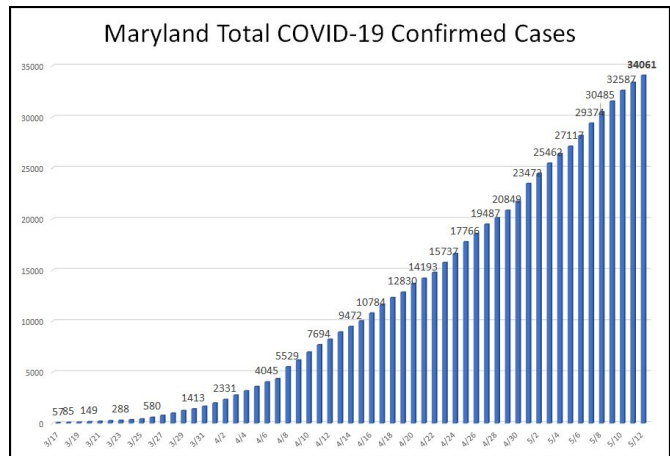
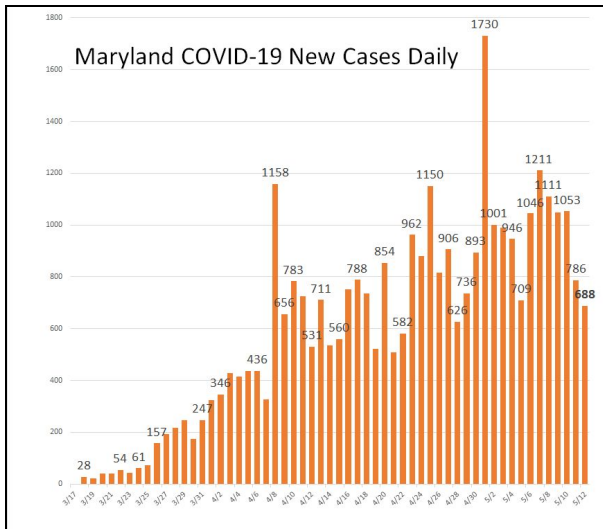
Congressman David Trone (MD6)

Stats @ 5 PM

With increased testing capacity coming online in Maryland, Governor Larry Hogan will track trends in **hospitalizations** and **ICU beds** for indicators on when to initiate plans to reopen the state.



MD6 today: MoCo (67,130), Fred.(1,282), Wash.(284), Allegany (148), Garrett (6).



MD reports 1,643 total deaths ([MD Dept. of Health](#)).

As of 5 PM today, the United States had recorded 1,359,319 total confirmed cases and 81,847 deaths due to Coronavirus ([JHU](#)).

Federal Updates

- House Democrats introduced the **HEROES Act** coronavirus relief bill today that would direct more than \$3 trillion to state and local governments and health systems, expand unemployment insurance and food stamp funds, send another round of stimulus checks to Americans, among other initiatives. As reported in [The Washington Post](#), the bill sets up a “huge clash” with Senate Republicans and the White House over how to deal with the economy. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he was at work on crafting liability protections for businesses instead. “This is not a time for aspirational legislation,” McConnell said.

Democrats describe the HEROES Act as “a bold response to the coronavirus pandemic and the economic collapse.” It creates new State and Local Coronavirus Relief Funds to help first responders, frontline health workers, transit employees, teachers, and other workers providing vital services. Funds can be used for COVID-related expenses, to replace foregone revenues not projected on January 31, 2020, or to respond to negative economic impacts of COVID. Funds are available until expended.

The House is expected to meet at 9 AM on Friday, May 15, to consider the legislation and also vote on a Rule change related to remote work, according to a statement from House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer. Votes could start by 10 AM and continue into the evening due to accommodations to protect the health of Members and staff.

Maryland Updates

- Gov. Larry Hogan [tweeted](#) today that he will hold a press conference tomorrow at 5 PM to provide an update on Stage One of the state’s **#MarylandStrong Roadmap to Recovery**. [WBAL](#) and others are reporting that the governor will discuss the first phase of easing coronavirus-related restrictions, which would include lifting the stay-at-home order and could allow certain small businesses to reopen and some personal services to resume. On a call Tuesday with county executives and Baltimore Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young, Hogan discussed a flexible and regional approach to reopening. Young said the state’s eight largest jurisdictions will likely coordinate on reopening, adding that “we don’t feel comfortable to really open right now.” Baltimore City, along with Prince George’s, Montgomery, Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties are among the hardest hit areas of Maryland.
- As hundreds of Marylanders waited to testify in a virtual state Senate [hearing](#) today on problems with the state unemployment filing system, Labor Secretary Tiffany Robinson issued a statement on the department’s performance since the start of the coronavirus, noting that the state:
 - Has received **214,475** unemployment claims -- more than double received in all of 2019.
 - This includes **56,000** Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claims from workers like independent contractors and gig economy workers now eligible for assistance.
 - Has paid **\$165 million** out in claims, with 90 percent paid within 21 days.

The secretary’s statement includes an explanation for the continued issues and tries to reassure frustrated residents: “The unprecedented volume of new claims, and constantly changing guidelines from the federal government, have presented a series of challenges not only for our department, but for unemployment programs across the nation....Please know that we are listening, we know what needs to be improved, and we are focused on getting the job done. We will not be satisfied until every Marylander gets the relief they need and deserve.” (as reported by [WBAL](#))

District Updates

- Montgomery County
 - a. Tuesday morning the Maryland Department of Health reported 7,130 cases of COVID-19 in Montgomery County, which is an increase of 221 cases from the 6,909 reported Monday. According to the health department, 373 county residents have died from COVID-19 in Montgomery County. This is an increase of twenty deaths since Monday. The number of probable deaths is 34.

- b. On Monday, Montgomery County Department of Recreation released a “Rec Updates” letter, acknowledging the questions people have about the status of camps and pools in the summer. But the letter left these questions unanswered and instead detailed information about refunds for programs canceled because of the coronavirus. The letter says, “The recreation team is working tirelessly to make plans for a fun and safe summer season of activities, classes and camps while being mindful of the challenges presented by COVID-19. Safety standards will require us to restructure the ways we deliver services, and we don’t know just yet how summer camps, outdoor pools and other summer activities might be provided.”
 - c. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation will receive more than \$30 million from the federal and state government to support Ride On bus program during the COVID-19 health crisis. The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) designated \$25 billion to support states’ public transit in light of closures and profit losses stemming from the COVID-19 health crisis. Montgomery County received over \$28 million from the CARES Act funding as part of the Washington D.C. area. The funding will cover the cost of lost revenue from the elimination of fare collection since March 13. Fare collection was eliminated to limit personal interaction, according to a press release from the county. The funding also covers the cost of hazard pay for bus drivers, and increased cleaning measures to keep passengers and staff safe.
- Frederick County
 - a. As officials from the city of Frederick recently adopted a budget of roughly \$100 million and the Frederick County Council is currently discussing County Executive Jan Gardner’s proposed \$665.8 million budget for fiscal year 2021, leaders from Frederick County’s other municipalities are also finalizing their budgets. The common theme: the uncertainty of future revenues and the overall economy due to the coronavirus outbreak.
 - Washington County
 - a. Meritus Health has again expanded COVID-19 testing to reach more people. Those who do not currently have symptoms of the coronavirus, but suspect or are concerned that they have been exposed, may visit one of two Meritus Health screening centers and be tested for COVID-19. The change went into effect Monday, according to a Meritus news release.
 - Allegany County
 - a. A third nursing home in Allegany County now has at least one COVID-19 case. The Allegany County Health Department said in a news release Monday evening that a resident of Moran Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Westernport was one of two new cases in the county. The new cases bring the county total to 148. Health officials also reported the death of a female resident of the Cumberland Healthcare Center, where at least 100 residents and staff members have been affected by the disease. The other nursing home affected in the county is Sterling Care Frostburg Village, where two residents and one staff member have tested positive for the coronavirus. Health officials said the other new case was a man in his 40s with no nursing home connection. He has not required hospitalization. Fourteen county residents have died from COVID-19, including nine with a connection to the Cumberland Healthcare Center. As of Monday, 1,293 Allegany County residents have been tested for COVID-19. Of those, 1,135 have tested negative, 148 were positive and 10 results were pending.
 - Garrett County
 - a. Because of the current pandemic and in light of the uncertainty of the upcoming weeks and months, the Grantsville Lions Club has announced the cancellation of what was to be the 43rd annual Grantsville Days Celebration set for June 26-28. In addition, the club’s Cash Drawing set for May 23 has also been canceled.